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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/731,415

12/06/2000

William B. Werner

TI-27136

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7590

08/03/2004

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED

P O BOX 655474, M/S 3999

DALLAS, TX 75265

EXAMINER

USTARIS, JOSEPH G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 08/03/2004

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/731,415

Applicant(s)

WERNER, WILLIAM B.

Examiner

Joseph G Ustaris

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - The abstract exceeds the maximum word length of 150 words. Please revise the abstract's contents in order to meet the proper format of an abstract.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8-12, and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rabowsky (US006141530A).

Regarding claim 1, Rabowsky discloses a system and method for digital electronic cinema delivery that is used for "scheduling and controlling presentation of data" (See Fig. 1 and Fig. 2; column 2 lines 25-47). The system includes multiple storage devices or "data library" (See Fig. 1 element 22 and Fig. 2 element 62) that stores cinema files or "plurality of features" (See column 10 lines 10-34) and inherently

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trailers and advertisements or "promotional data" (See column 12 lines 15-16, 25-29).

The system also includes multiple secure projector systems or "plurality of data presentation units" for each room, where each projector system is used "to present at least one of the plurality of features" (See Fig. 2 element 76). Furthermore, the projector system is "coupled to the data library" or storage devices (See Fig. 2 elements 62 and 76). The system further includes an automation/scheduling system and a headend or "server" that is coupled to both storage devices or "server coupled to the data library" (See Fig. 1 and 2). The headend and automation/scheduling system creates a schedule that selects "at least one of a desired number of features to present at a selected one of a desired plurality of times" and "a location in which to present the selected feature" (See column 12 lines 10-12), where each cinema file has restrictions associated with it determined by the headend or "determine restrictions applicable to the selected feature" (See column 12 lines 19-25). The schedule also schedules the play of all trailers or "select applicable promotional data to be presented with the selected feature" and allows the operator to select advertisements to be inserted (See column 12 lines 15-16 and 26-28). The headend and automation/scheduling system utilizes the schedule to "automatically provide the selected feature and promotional data from the data library to at least one of the plurality of data presentation units in the selected location at approximately the selected one of the desired plurality of times" (See column 12 lines 10-16).

Regarding claim 3, the projector system or "data presentation unit" includes a projector or "electronic projector" (See Fig. 2 element 88).

Regarding claim 4, the headend receives cinema data and inherently trailers or "promotional data" from the original camera negatives or "remote source" that is scanned and digitized "for transfer to the data library" (See column 2 line 50 – column 3 lines 10).

Regarding claim 6, the "promotional data" includes trailers and advertisements as discussed in claim 1 above.

Claim 8 contains the limitations of claim 1 (wherein the storage devices are also known as "storage medium" and the scheduling process, performed by the headend and automation/scheduling system or also known as the "scheduler", is inherently repeated for all cinema files, trailers, and all playback times in order to create a schedule or "scheduling data" that is inherently stored within the storage device in order for the theater to run efficiently) and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to that claim.

Claim 9 contains the limitations of claims 1 and 8 (where inherently the headend and automation/scheduling system "automatically initiate transfer the selected feature and promotional data to at least one of the data presentation units in the selected location at approximately the selected one of the desired plurality of times" in order to successfully present the cinema and trailers) and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Regarding claim 10, the theater system further includes a reverse channel to send data back to the headend. The data includes various information such as trouble reports, error messages, and messages related to the health and welfare of the theater

system or "facility data...maintenance data" (See column 12 lines 30-37). Inherently, the headend and automation/scheduling system would select locations that are fully operational based on the trouble reports and error messages in order to ensure successful presentation of the cinema and trailers.

Regarding claim 11, the headend further includes a conditional access system (CAS) that ensures the files in storage cannot be accessed without authorization and accountability or "accounting data" (See column 6 lines 5-38). Inherently, the CAS of the headend would prevent access or "deactivate the feature to present" without proper authorization and accountability or "in response to accounting data".

Claim 12 contains the limitations of claims 6 and 8 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 15 contains the limitations of claims 1 and 8 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 16 contains the limitations of claims 9 and 15 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 17 contains the limitations of claims 4 and 15 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 18 contains the limitations of claims 10 and 15 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 7, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rabowsky (US006141530A).

Claim 2 contains the limitations of claim 1 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to that claim. However, Rabowsky does not disclose a method of creating a "new scheduling data by rotating the selection of promotional data to be presented with the selected feature".

Official Notice is taken that it is well known to rotate the order of promotional data to be presented thereby creating a different schedule. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the headend and automation/scheduling system disclosed by Rabowsky to create a "new scheduling data by rotating the selection of promotional data to be presented with the selected feature" in order to provide an easy means to create new schedules thereby reducing the processing load of the headend and automation/scheduling system and requiring less interaction by the operator.

Regarding claim 7, Rabowsky does not disclose that the "the feature is transmitted to the at least one data presentation unit using a wireless communication link".

Official Notice is taken that it is well known to use a "wireless communications link" to transfer files. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the storage/playback system and secure projector system disclosed by Rabowsky to use a "wireless communications link" to transfer cinema files or "feature" in order to reduce the amount of wires thereby making installation and selection of location of each device easier and more convenient.

Claim 13 contains the limitations of claims 2 and 8 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claims 5, 14, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rabowsky (US006141530A) in view of Mercs et al. (US006384893B1).

Claim 5 contains the limitations of claim 1 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to that claim. However, Rabowsky does not disclose that the headend and automation/scheduling system can "control at least one facility element within the selected location at the selected one of the desired plurality of times".

Merces et al. (Merces) discloses a cinema networking system that utilizes a cinema controller to control multiple digital control processors (DSPs). The cinema controller can issue commands to the DSPs to control other devices such as auditorium lights and curtains in the room during the presentation of the movie or "at least one facility element within the selected location at the selected one of the desired plurality of times" (See column 5 lines 20-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill

in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the headend and automation/scheduling system disclosed by Rabowsky to be able to "control at least one facility element within the selected location at the selected one of the desired plurality of times", as taught by MerCs, in order to reduce the amount of interaction required by the operator thereby providing a more efficient means of presenting a movie within a theater.

Claim 14 contains the limitations of claims 5 and 8 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Regarding claim 19, Rabowsky in view of MerCs further disclose that headend or controller is coupled to a ticket system where it can receive performance data such as ticket sales (See MerCs column 4 line 64 – column 5 line 3).

Official Notice is taken that it is well known to "deactivate the selected feature in response to ticket sales data". Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the headend and automation/scheduling system disclosed by Rabowsky in view of MerCs to "deactivate the selected feature in response to ticket sales data" in order to minimize financial loss.

Claim 20 contains the limitations of claims 5 and 15 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please take note of Guido et al. (US005924013A) for their similar

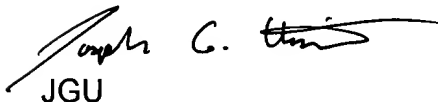
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method of transmitting motion picture data and information from a central site to multiple movie theaters.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph Ustaris whose telephone number is (703) 305-0377. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday with alternate Fridays off from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile, can be reached on (703) 305-4380. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.



JGU

July 14, 2004



VIVEK SRIVASTAVA
PRIMARY EXAMINER